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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin

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RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - APRIL 1990

Total Rhode Island wage and salary jobs rose in April as gains in the Service Producing sector and Contract Construction more than offset a decline in Manufacturing. The April job total of 457,500 represents a monthly increase of 2,000 but is 3,300 below the April 1989 figure of 460,800.

Overall employment among the Service Producing industries advanced 2,400 from the March level and 1,800 from the year ago figure to 333,600 in April. Seasonal gains in Services and Trade boosted job totals by 1,400 and 500, respectively. Monthly upturns of 200 each occurred in Government and Transportation/Public Utilities, followed by an increase of 100 in Finance/Insurance/Real Estate.

The number of jobs in the Goods Producing sector totalled 123,900 in April, reflecting a decline of 400 from last month and 5,100 from the April 1989 level. Contract Construction employment rose seasonally in April, climbing to 18,800, up 900 from the month earlier figure. Overall factory jobs, at 105,100, posted a monthly decrease of 1,300 and an annual downturn of 3,800. Manufacturers of Durable Goods recorded a decline of 600 jobs from March while those in Nondurable Goods were down 700. Monthly job reductions of 200 each were recorded in Electrical Machinery and Textiles, followed by decreases of 100 each in Primary Metals, Fabricated Metals, Nonelectrical Machinery, Instruments, the Miscellaneous Manufacturing segment, Food-Beverage, Apparel, Paper Products, Chemical Products and Plastics Products. The only employment gain for the month (+100) was reported in Jewelry-Silverware,while job totals for the six remaining industries - three each in Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods - were unchanged from March.

The April work week averaged 39.4 hours, down 0.3 of an hour from last month and 0.2 of an hour from a year ago. Production workers averaged $9.37 in April, up 3 cents from March and 37 cents compared to April 1989.

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped by 0.3 of a percent to 6.7 percent in April from an estimated 7.0 percent in March. The state's unadjusted unemployment rate also decreased over the month - from 8.2 percent in March to 7.1 percent in April. In concert with the decrease in the rate, the jobless total fell to 37,300 in April, down 5,600 from the prior month's figure of 42,900.

Nationally, the seasonally adjusted rate rose in the March-April period - from 5.2 to 5.4 percent - its highest level in 15 months. On an unadjusted basis, the U.S. rate dropped to 5.2 percent, down 0.2 of a percent from the March level of 5.4 percent.

OCCUPATIONAL WAGE SURVEYS

The Labor Market Information Unit of this Department has been conducting a series of wage surveys among randomly selected employers in various industries in order to better respond to the considerable public demand for occupational wage data. The program surveys six of the major industrial groups on a rotating basis: Construction, Manufacturing, Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities, Wholesale and Retail Trade, Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, and Services. The Labor Market Information Unit reviews and compiles the collected information and publishes the results in an easily understood and usable format.

Our wage surveys have been designed to gather wage data for occupations that have been selected based on their prominence in the particular industry being surveyed. We now have occupational wage data available from the first round of surveys in all six major industrial categories. In addition, wage data from a Day Care/Nursery School survey is also available.

A second round of wage surveys will start soon. As always, the Department will continue to respect participating employer confidentiality. We sincerely appreciate the cooperation received from the hundreds of employers who responded to last year's survey request, and look forward to the cooperation of those selected this year. Copies of our latest wage surveys may be obtained without charge by writing the Labor Market Information Unit of this Department at 101 Friendship Street, Providence, RI 02903-3740, or by calling (401) 277-3706.

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
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Employment and unemployment statistics contained in this report were compiled by THE DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING in cooperation with the BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR. For additional information contact LABOR MARKET INFORMATION at 277-3706. TDD Voice: 277-3718.

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

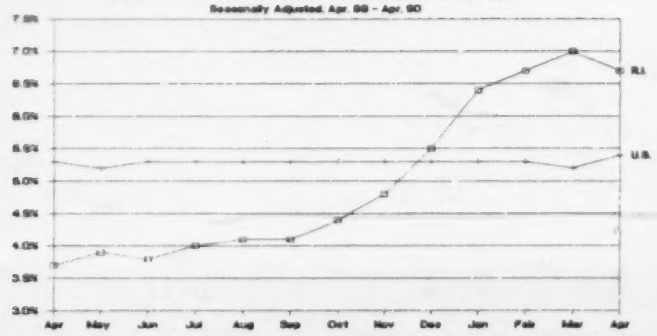
	April 1990	March* 1990	April* 1989	
Civilian Labor Force	524.8	523.4	523.8	
Resident Employment	487.4	480.6	503.3	
Unemployment	37.3	42.9	20.5	
Rate (Unadjusted)	7.1	8.2	3.9	
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	6.7	7.0	3.7	*Revised

UNITED STATES

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	April 1990	March 1990	April 1989
Civilian Labor Force	123,816	123,789	122,576
Resident Employment	117,359	117,093	116,347
Unemployment	6,457	6,697	6,229
Rate (Unadjusted)	5.2	5.4	5.1
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	5.4	5.2	5.3

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)			NET CHANGE FROM	
	Apr. 1990	Mar. 1990	Apr. 1989	Mar. 1990	Apr. 1989
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	457.5	455.5	460.8	+ 2000	- 3300
GOODS PRODUCING	123.9	124.3	129.0	- 400	- 5100
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	18.8	17.9	20.1	+ 900	- 1300
MANUFACTURING	105.1	106.4	108.9	- 1300	- 3800
SERVICE PRODUCING	333.6	331.2	331.8	+ 2400	+ 1800
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15.3	15.1	15.4	+ 200	- 100
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	106.2	105.7	105.9	+ 500	+ 300
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	26.8	26.7	26.7	+ 100	+ 100
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	125.8	124.4	124.3	+ 1400	+ 1500
GOVERNMENT	59.5	59.3	59.5	+ 200	0

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

April 1990

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	105.1	369.18	39.4	9.37
DURABLE MFG.	71.7	365.34	39.2	9.32
LUMBER/FURNITURE	3.1	444.99	39.0	11.41
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.4	490.04	40.6	12.07
PRIMARY METALS	4.1	421.89	41.2	10.24
FABRICATED METALS	9.0	341.82	39.2	8.72
NONELECTRIC MACH.	5.7	459.10	40.7	11.28
ELECTRICAL MACH.	6.4	347.38	38.9	8.93
TRANS. EQUIPMENT	8.2	490.69	41.2	11.91
INSTRUMENTS	7.1	401.86	41.6	9.66
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	20.8	287.66	38.0	7.57
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	5.9	294.94	36.1	8.17
NONDURABLE MFG.	33.4	377.30	39.8	9.48
FOOD-BEVERAGE	2.6	366.46	40.9	8.96
TEXTILES	9.2	331.50	39.7	8.35
APPAREL	1.6	306.92	38.9	7.89
PAPER PRODUCTS	2.1	364.27	40.7	8.95
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	6.6	453.66	37.9	11.97
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	2.8	456.00	40.0	11.40
RUBBER PRODUCTS	0.8	433.24	41.3	10.49
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.8	371.33	39.8	9.33
LEATHER PRODUCTS	1.9	282.20	40.2	7.02

Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded from the Establishment Employment figures. Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month and year figures are REVISED.